

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 1152

By Kilby

A RESOLUTION to recognize and commend those public servants affiliated with the Tennessee State Parks system upon winning the National Gold Medal Award for Excellence in Park and Recreation Management.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should pause to specially recognize those estimable public servants who have dedicated themselves to providing the highest quality Tennessee State Park system for their fellow citizens; and

WHEREAS, under the leadership of Governor Phil Bredesen and Environment and Conservation Commissioner Jim Fyke, the Tennessee State Parks system has been selected best state parks system in the nation by the American Academy of Parks and Recreation Administration and the National Recreation and Park Association; and

WHEREAS, the State Parks system won the National Gold Medal Award for Excellence in Park and Recreation Management, the highest honor a park system can receive within the industry; and

WHEREAS, Gold Medal Award recipients demonstrate excellence in land conservation and environmental stewardship, long-range planning, efficient use of financial resources, productive partnerships with citizen groups and others, meaningful programs and recreational opportunities for park visitors, and overall successful parks management; and

WHEREAS, the Tennessee State Park system is comprised of fifty-three state parks and seventy-seven natural areas with a variety of recreational opportunities, including hiking, biking, boating, golfing, swimming, and whitewater rafting, as well as resort parks with inns, conference centers, and restaurants; and

WHEREAS, Tennessee State Parks and natural areas help promote tourism and recreation while simultaneously protect ecologically, culturally, and historically significant lands for the enjoyment of Tennesseans both now and in the future; and

WHEREAS, a Tennessee State Park exists within an hour's drive of most any location in Tennessee and all Tennessee State Parks are free and open to the public; and

WHEREAS, all Tennesseans are encouraged to visit and enjoy their award-winning Tennessee State Parks; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we hereby honor and commend the Tennessee State Parks system and its many dedicated employees, under the leadership of Governor Phil Bredesen and Environment and Conservation Commissioner Jim Fyke, upon winning the National Gold Medal Award for Excellence in Park and Recreation Management.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.